

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Atty Dkt. 249-311 C#/M#

NEBASHI et al

Group Art Unit: 2861

Serial No. 10/612,286

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: July 3, 2003

Date: January 7, 2004

Title: PRINTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. One copy of the reference(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

X	This Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") is being filed within three (3) months of the U.S. filing date OR before the
	mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.
u	This IDS is being filed more than three (3) months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office
	Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
	a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a
	foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this IDS
	37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1).
	<ul> <li>b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in</li> </ul>
	a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual
	designated in 37 CFR§1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this IDS. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).
	□ c. Attached is a check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Please credit or debit
	Deposit Acct No. 14-1140 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. A duplicate copy of this
_	paper is attached.
┙	This IDS is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or
	Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of
	the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 14-1140 as needed to ensure consideration of
	the disclosed information. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.
	a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a
	foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this IDS
	37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1).
	<ul> <li>b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in</li> </ul>
	a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual
_	designated in 37 CFR§1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this IDS. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).
╡	Relevance of the non-English language reference(s) is discussed in the present specification.
	The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search
_	report is attached for the Examiner's information.
=	A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language reference(s) appears in the Appendix hereto.
	The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No, filed, which is
	directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a
	waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is
_	respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.
	Copies of the references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent Application No (filed), which is
	relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. Thus, Form PTO1449 is attached without copies of these references. 37 C.F.R.1.98(d).
_	Other.
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eh i	loor By Atty: Alan M. Kagen, Reg. No. 36,178
	igton, Virginia 22201-4714 phone: (703) 816-4000 imile: (703) 818-4100 Signature: A
	imile: (703) 816-4100 Signature:
	·ile Signature.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION	249-311		SERIAL	<del>10.</del>	<del></del>			
	249-311							
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	APPLICANT	APPLICANT						
	NEBASHI et al							
(Use several shaper if necessary)	FILING DATE		GROUP	GROUP				
(Use several shappy if necessary)	July 3, 2003		2861					
	U.S. PATE	NT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
5,779,371	7/1998	Aoyama et al.						
5,902,059	5/1999	Asai et al.						
6,350,005	2/2002	Asai et al.						
6,523,927	2/2003	Asai et al.						
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	FOREIGN PA	ATENT DOCUMENTS	3		,			

					TRANSLATION	
DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	YES	NO
0 765 761	4/1997	Europe			l l	
0 853 003	7/1998	Europe				
0 895 868	2/1999	Europe				
1 080 927	3/2001	Europe				
9-95024	4/1997	Japan			**below	
6-79855	10/1994	Japan			Abstract	
10-193710	7/1998	Japan			**below	
11-129551	5/1999	Japan			**below	
11-157107	6/1999	Japan		·	Abstract	
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

\*Examiner Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.

Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)

JP 9-95024 corresponds to USPN 5,779,371 and EP 0 765 761.

JP 11-129551 corresponds to USPN 6,350,005, USPN 6,523,927, EP 0 895 868 and EP 1 080 927.

JP 10-193710 corresponds to USPN 5,902,059 and EP 0 853 003.